

REMARKS

The application has been amended to overcome the examiner's objections and rejections.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because the phrase "the downrigger line hole adapted for receiving a downrigger line from a boat engaged in the hole" was considered awkward and unclear and the recitation of "the hole" at the end of line 18 was seen to have insufficient antecedent basis, and claims 2-6 were dependent upon the rejected subject matter of claim 1.

Claim 1 was amended to include: "the downrigger line hole adapted for receiving a downrigger line from a boat with the downrigger line engaged in the downrigger line hole" and on line 18 "the fishing line hole" to overcome the 112 rejection.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Weber (US #5,339,561).

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weber in view of Hall (US #4,098,017).

Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weber.

Claims 3 and 6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 was amended to combine the language of claims 1 and 3 thereby rewriting claim 3 in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1,

thereby overcoming the Examiner's objection and making currently amended claim 1 allowable according to the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 2 and 4-8 depend upon and further limit amended claim 1 now seen allowable, therefore claims 2 and 4-8 are also seen to be allowable.

Claim 3 was canceled.

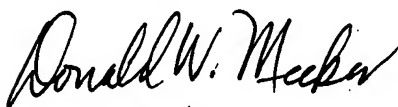
New claim 9 was added to combine the language of claims 1 and 6 thereby rewriting claim 6 in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1, thereby overcoming the Examiner's objection and making new claim 9 allowable according to the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

New claim 10 is dependent upon and further limits claim 9 seen allowable, therefore claim 10 is seen to be allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, claims 1-2 and 4-10 are seen to be allowable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-2 and 4-10 is respectfully requested.

A Petition to Revive an Abandoned Application Fee of \$750 and the Petition to Revive are attached. No additional fee is seen to be due.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald W. Meeker
Patent Agent of Record
Registration No. 28,792
Telephone (949) 675-6296